

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, South Dakota continues to have one of the highest percentages of working mothers in the nation who rely on quality care for their children; and,

*Whereas*, The number of South Dakota children under age six in paid child care is twice the national average; and,

*Whereas*, There are 885 registered family child care homes, 90 licensed group family child care homes, 169 licensed child care centers and 159 licensed before-and-after-school programs offering care and education to children; and,

*Whereas*, All children need caregivers who understand how to promote their healthy growth and development; and,

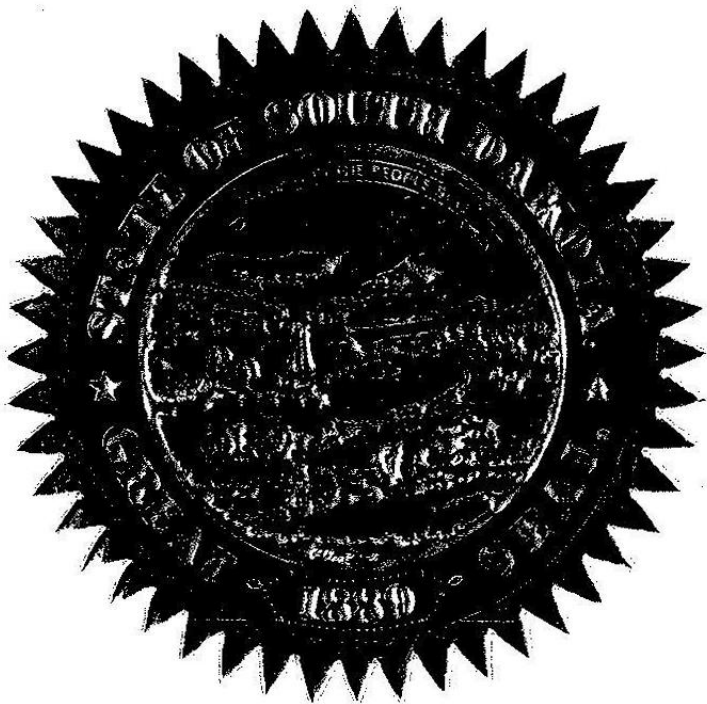
*Whereas*, All children need positive early learning experiences to foster their intellectual, social and emotional development and lay the foundation for later success in school; and,

*Whereas*, Child care providers deserve respect and appreciation for being the ones who are helping to shape our youngest generation:


*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 11, 2007, as

### *PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY*


in South Dakota, and I call on all parents and child care professionals to continue to sustain the high level of care afforded to the children of this state.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twentieth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.

  
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M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

  
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Chris Nelson, Secretary of State